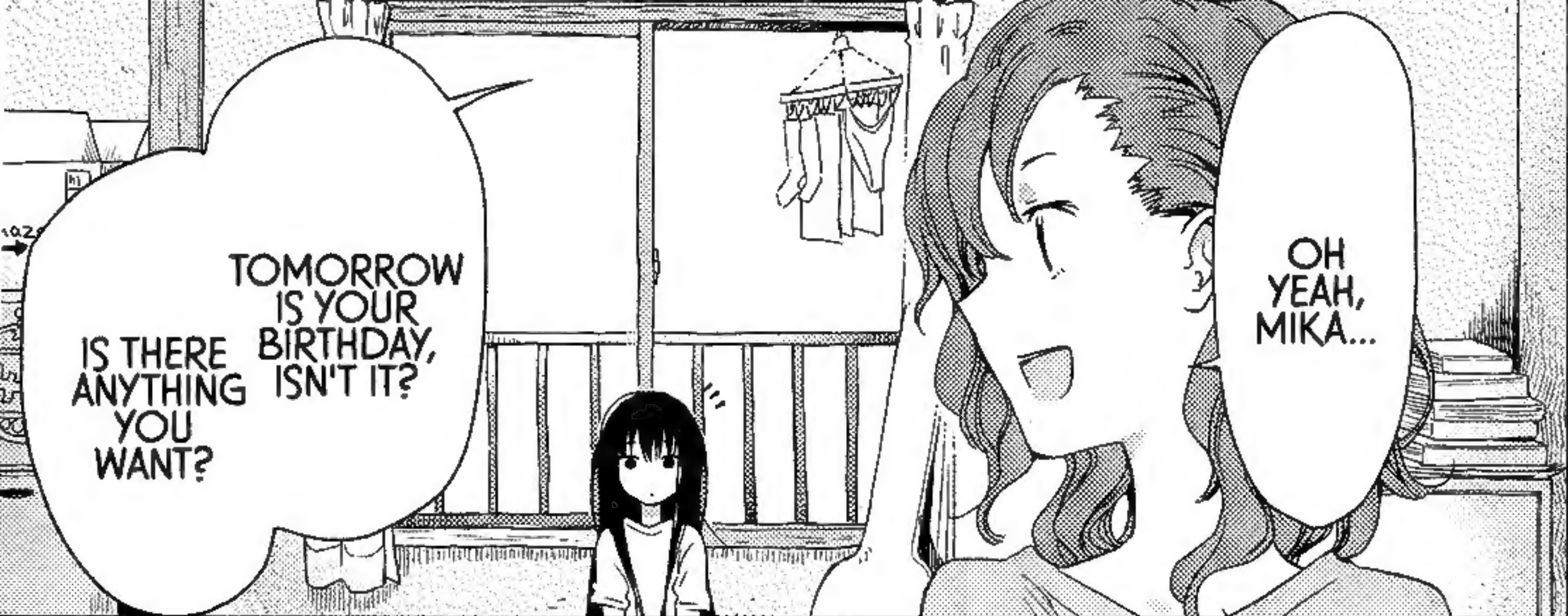




TOMORROW
IS YOUR
BIRTHDAY,
ISN'T IT?
IS THERE
ANYTHING
YOU
WANT?

OH
YEAH,
MIKA...



UM...

A JOB?

SHE
DIDN'T
HAVE
A PENNY
TO HER
NAME.

ワンルームシックノーパンツ

one room [sick-chic] no pants

CHAPTER 1: A GROUP OF POOR BANDMATES



Sentimental Vector (*Taguchi Shouichi & Harukawa Misaki*)

THESE
FOUR GIRLS
ARE LIVING
TOGETHER
HERE AS
A BAND.

BUILT
30
YEARS
AGO,

130 FT²,
ONE
ROOM,
NO BATH.

ぽかぽか

どろみ

RICE,

I WISH
I HAD
SOME
RICE
TO EAT.

This is
the story
of a girl
named "Mika"
living at the
bottom of
society and
the people
around her.

MIKA (GUITAR)

I GOT
FIRED,
SO I'M
BROKE!

NOPE!

WE LET
YOU OFF
THE HOOK
FOR YOUR
PART OF THE
RENT THIS
MONTH
BECAUSE
IT'S YOUR
BIRTHDAY,

AND
YOU
STILL
DON'T
HAVE ANY
MONEY?

ALL I
HAVE LEFT
IS THE
BAND!!

NEKO (BASS)

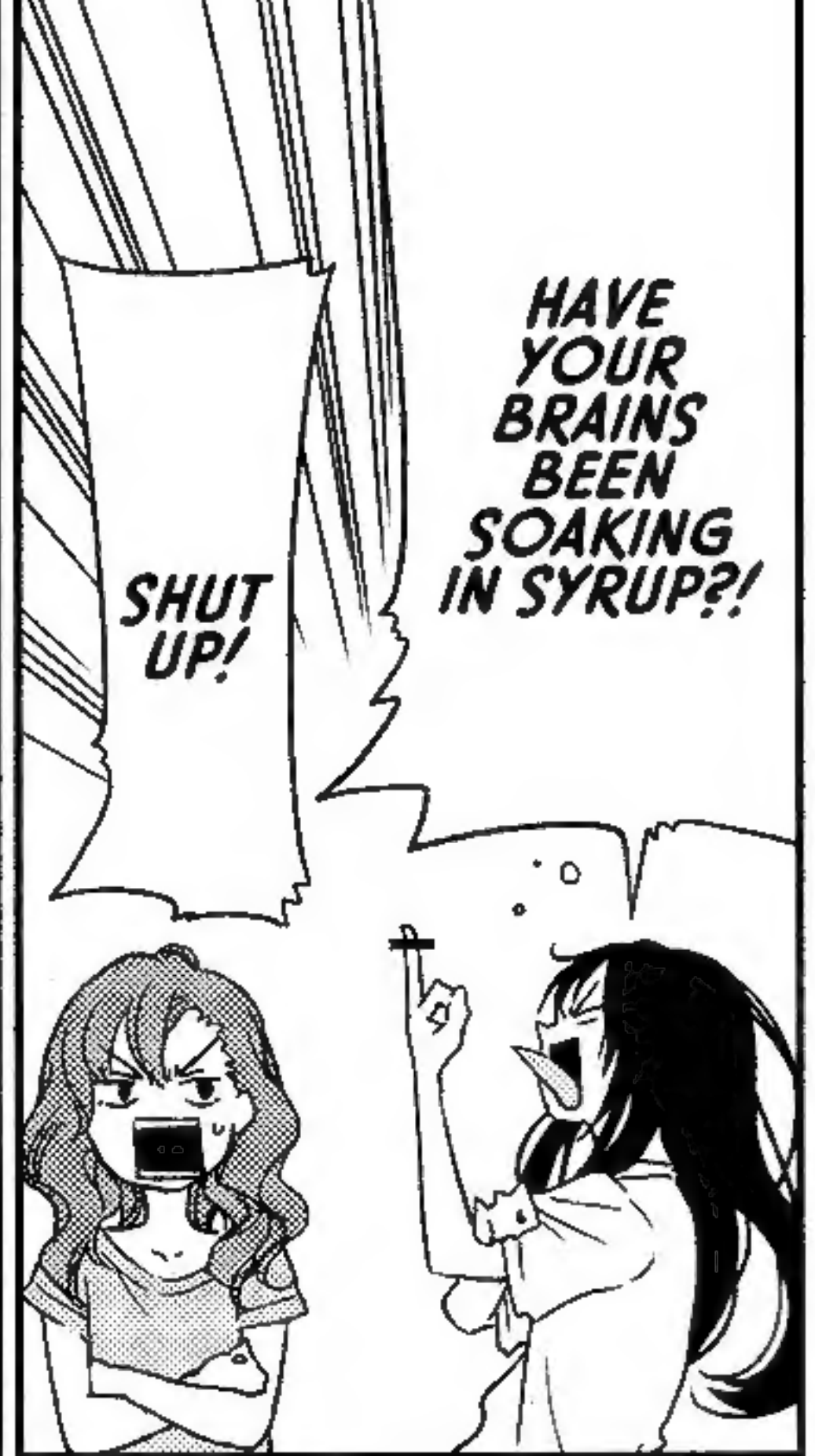
ズ





YOU KNOW,

MIKA,
YOU'RE A GUITARIST,
WHAT ABOUT
EARNING
SOME
MONEY
WITH YOUR
MUSIC?



SHUT
UP!

HAVE
YOUR
BRAINS
BEEN
SOAKING
IN SYRUP?!



SORED A!!

(That's it!!)

GO PLAY
YOUR
ACOUSTIC
GUITAR
AND SING
AROUND
THE TRAIN
STATION!

YEAH!

LIKE
BEING A
STREET
MUSICIAN!



.....





Master of Puppets

The title song to the 3rd album released by the influential metal band "Metallica", who formed in 1981.

A song so popular that countless musicians over the years have done covers of it.

The album is called "Metal Master" in Japan. Not a song that street musicians typically play.



NO ONE
ASKED
YOU TO
SHOW
OFF HOW
GOOD
YOU ARE
AT
CHANGING
RHYTHM!!

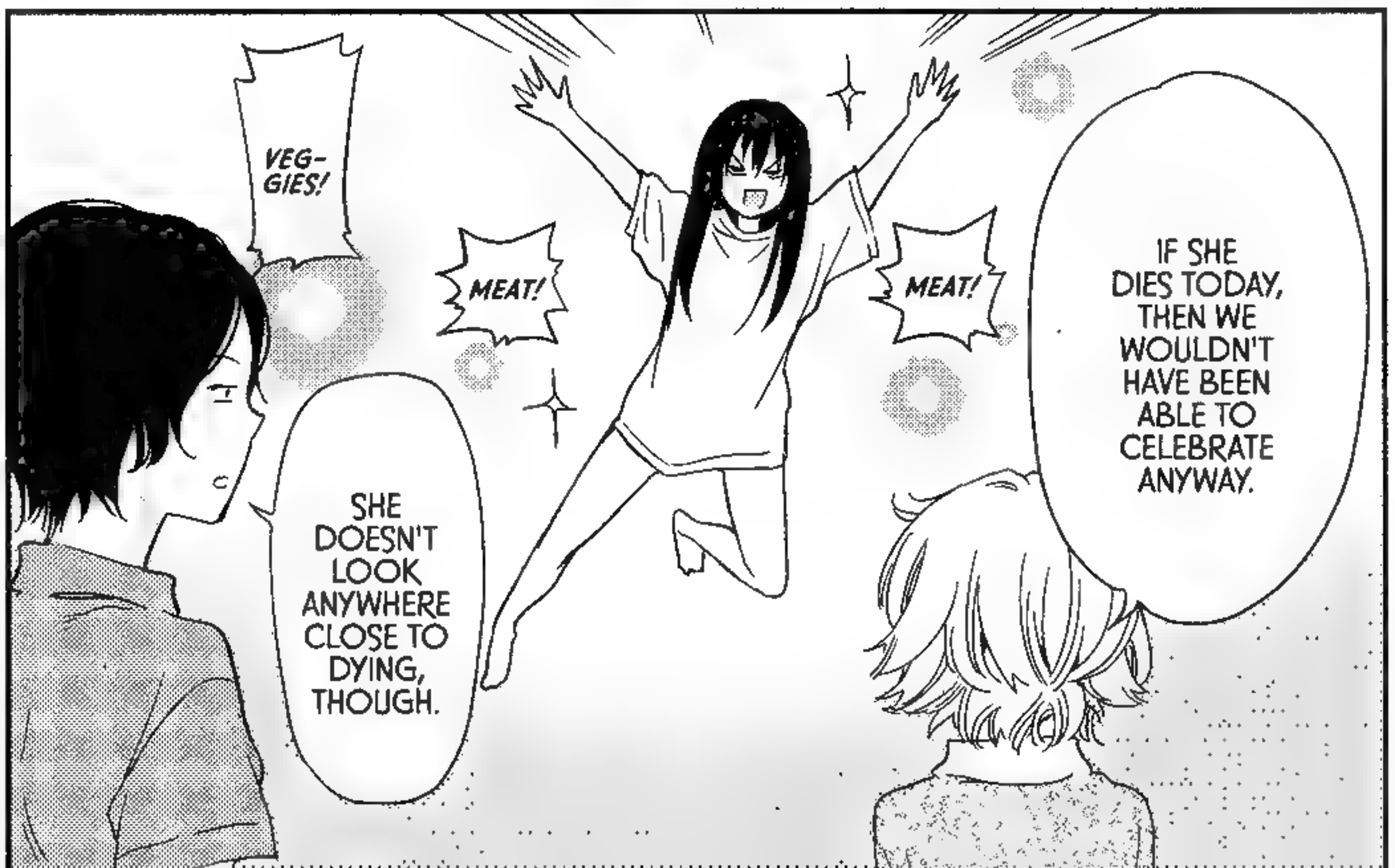
MASTER!!

THAT'S
FUCKING
METAL!

QUIT
STRUMMING
THE RIFF
WITH YOUR
ACOUSTIC
GUITAR!









OH,
MY
BAD...



UH,
WHAT?
IT'S
EMPTY?



I GUESS
WE'LL HAVE
TO DIP INTO
THE BAND'S
SAVINGS
AND BUY
SOMETHING
TASTY!

WE'RE IN
DESPERATE
TIMES
AND ALL,



I USED
IT TO BUY
MONSTER
HUNTER.

Kicked
out
of the
Band.



Chapter 2 - I am Mika. I currently have no home.







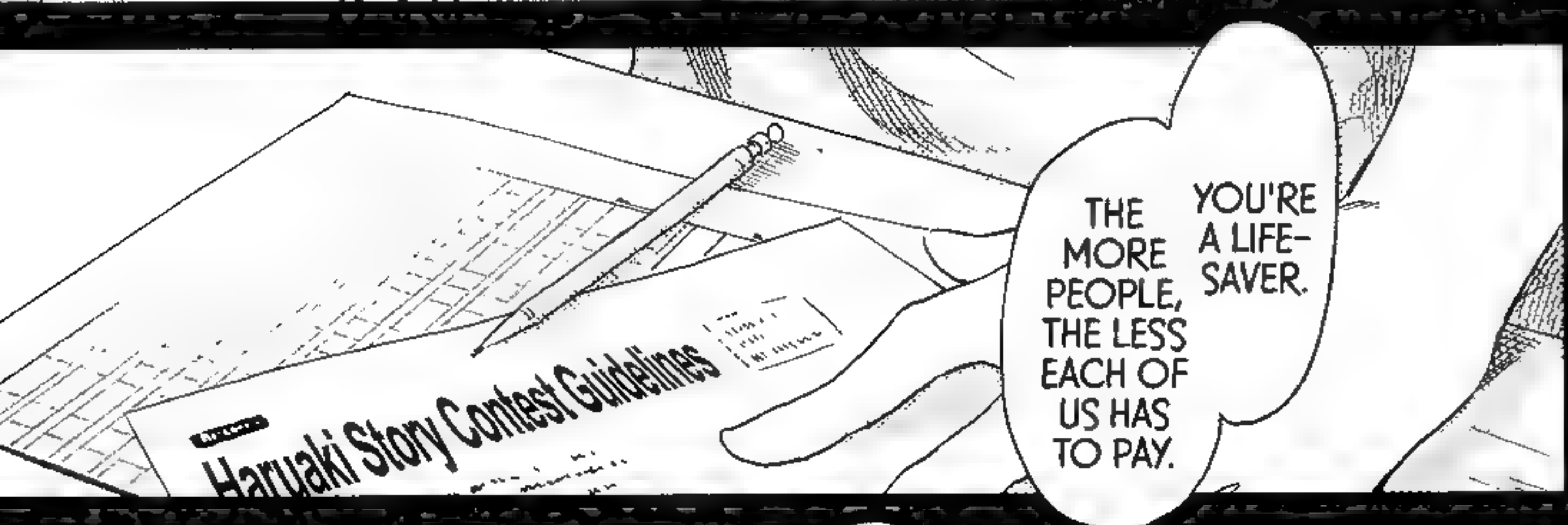
But she
wasn't
always
like
that.

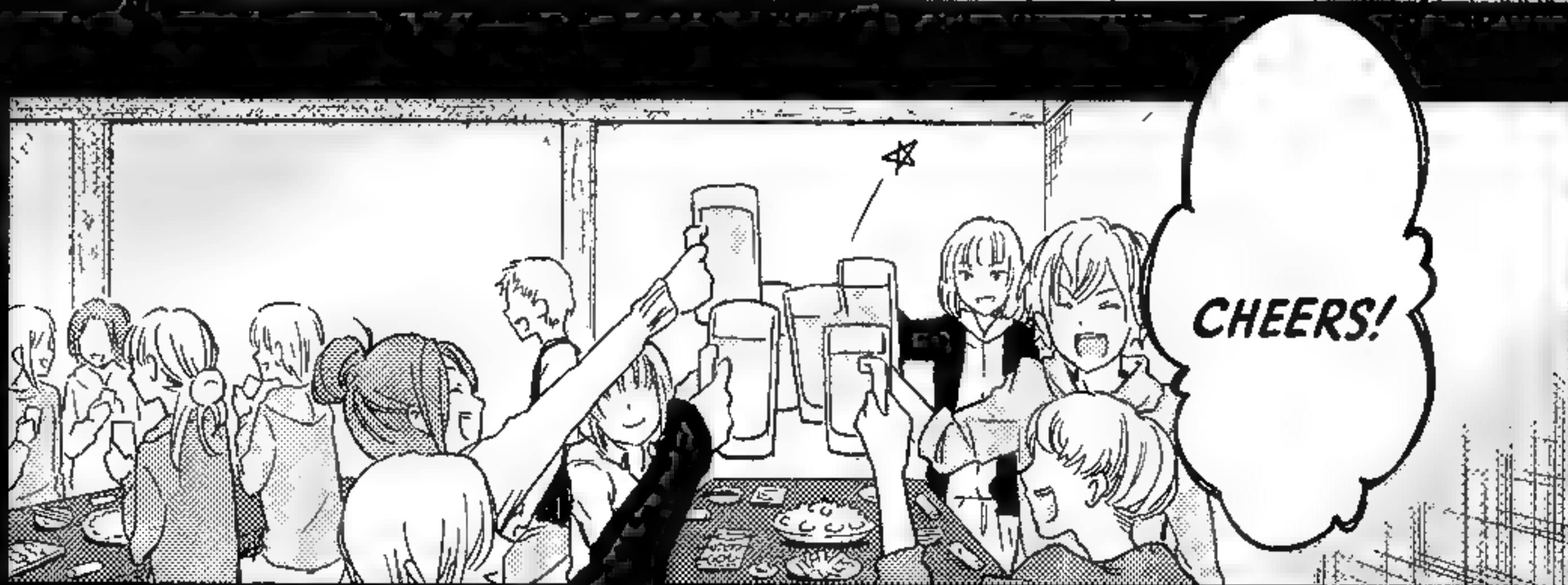
IS
THIS.

THE
ONLY
THING
I HAVE
LEFT,

This
girl,
Mika,

May be
a worthless
excuse of
a person,











THANKS.

TH...



HERE.



CONVERSATIONS WHERE EVERYONE IS JUST FOLLOWING THE MOOD AND GETTING EXCITED OVER EVERY LITTLE THING...

HMPH.

YOU COULD LOOK AT IT LIKE THAT'S HOW MUCH THEY ALL LIKE YOU.

THEY'RE STUPID IF YOU ASK ME.



THEM TREATING YOU LIKE A MASCOT.

HM?

OH,

YEAH, I GUESS.



YEAH,

YOU, UH,

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE GOT IT ROUGH.



I
WANT TO
LIVE A
MORE...

**ROCK
AND ROLL**
SORT
OF LIFE



OH,
I SEE...

THAT'S
WHY YOU'RE
ALWAYS BY
YOURSELF?

AVOIDING ANY
UNNECESSARY
RELATIONSHIPS.

AND GO
YOUR
OWN
WAY,

TO
STAND
ALONE,

WHAT?

WHAT
DOES THAT
ACTUALLY
MEAN?



I MEAN,
ROCK
AND ROLL
IS LIKE...

THAT'S
RIGHT!

THAT
...





"TO WALK THE SAME PATH TOGETHER AND SEE THE SAME SCENERY. THAT'S THE LIFE I WANT TO LIVE TOGETHER WITH NEKO-SAN."

THAT KUSADA?

あ、
ついた



NEKO-SAN,

YOU'RE TOO LOOSE-LIPPED!

NEKO AND I WERE IN THE SAME BAND.

Neko (Bass)



PRETTY LAME THING TO SAY FOR SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO BE A WRITER.

WHY DO YOU KNOW ALL THAT?!



HUH?

IS THIS YOUR TRUE SELF?

OH, UH...

WELL...

AREN'T YOU?

YOU'RE MORE TALKATIVE THAN I THOUGHT,

HA HA HA!

STILL, IS THAT REALLY SOMETHING YOU SHOULD SAY TO MY FACE?

HA HA HA!





YOU WANT
TO BE ROCK
AND ROLL,
RIGHT?



WHY
ARE YOU
GETTING
FLUSTERED?

IN FACT,
YOU'D BE
BETTER OFF
ACTING THAT
WAY ALL
THE TIME.

THERE'S
NOTHING
WRONG
WITH IT.



TCH.

I wish
I hadn't
said
anything...



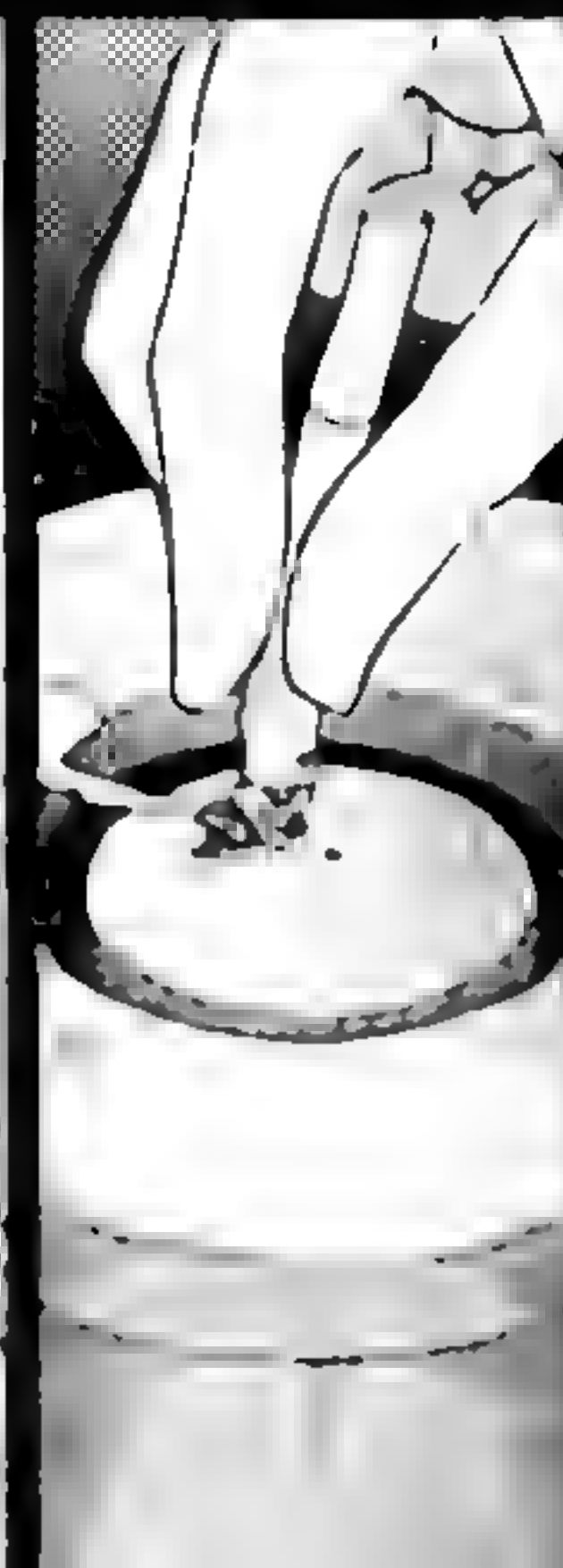
THAT
LINE WAS
CLICHE,
SO
CLICHE!

TELLING
ME
TO BE
ROCK
AND
ROLL.
WHAT
ARE
YOU,
THE
MAIN
CHAR-
ACTER?



WHA?!

YOUR
SMUG
LOOK
PISSES
ME OFF.





I can't help but wonder if Mika intruding on my life...

When I think back to what I said back then,



EVEN THOUGH I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO WRITE ABOUT.

TIME FOR WORK.

Was in some sense my own fault...

IF ONLY I HAD A GOOD SUBJECT.





RE...

YOU'VE
FINALLY
GOT A
DECENT
CHARACTER.

REALLY?!



I SEE,
I SEE.

THIS GIRL
HAS AN
INTERESTING
PERSONALITY.



STILL...

Even
people
who
are true
human
failures,

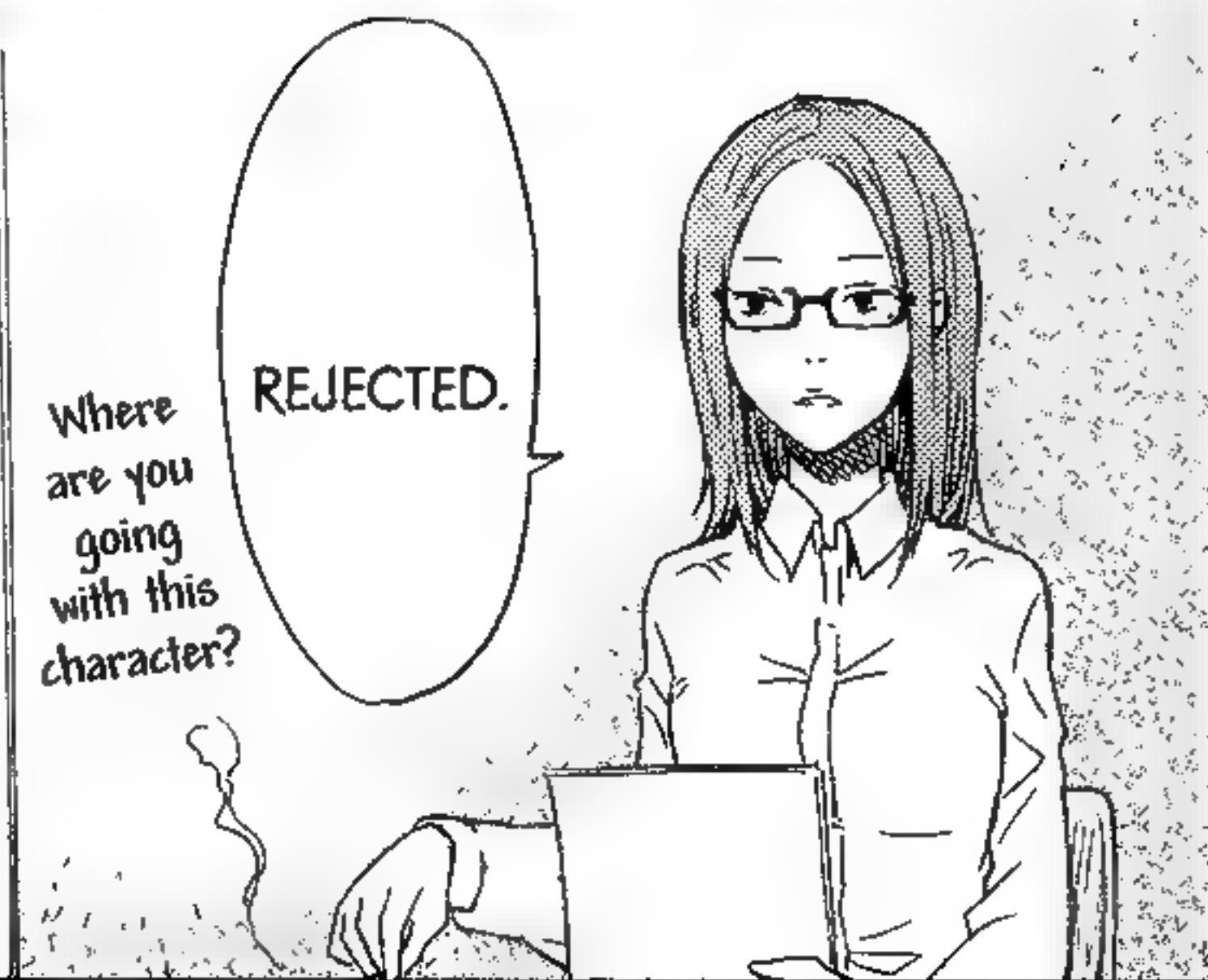
Will have
times when
they rise
to the
occasion
and
accomplish...

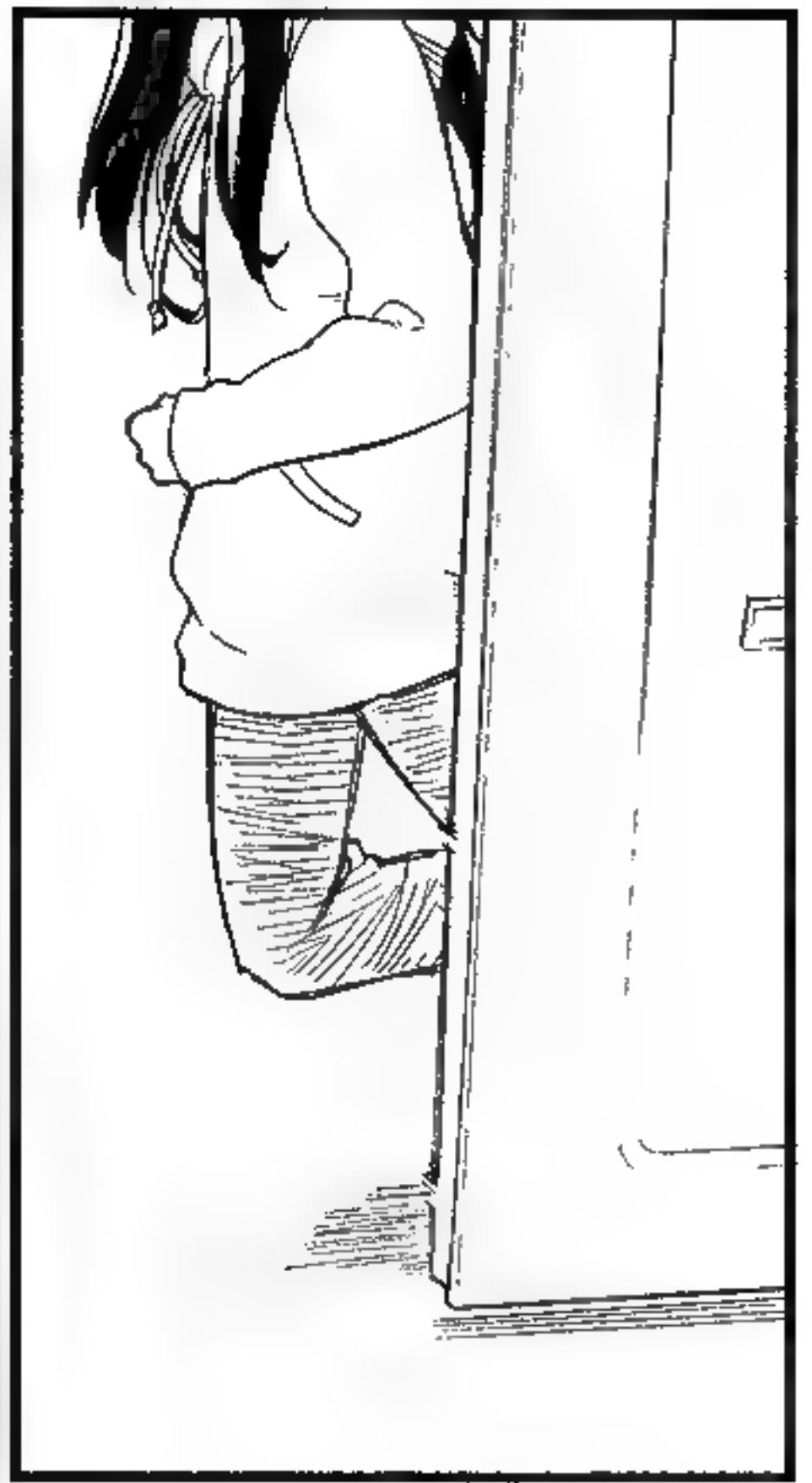


Nothing.

Where
are you
going
with this
character?

REJECTED.

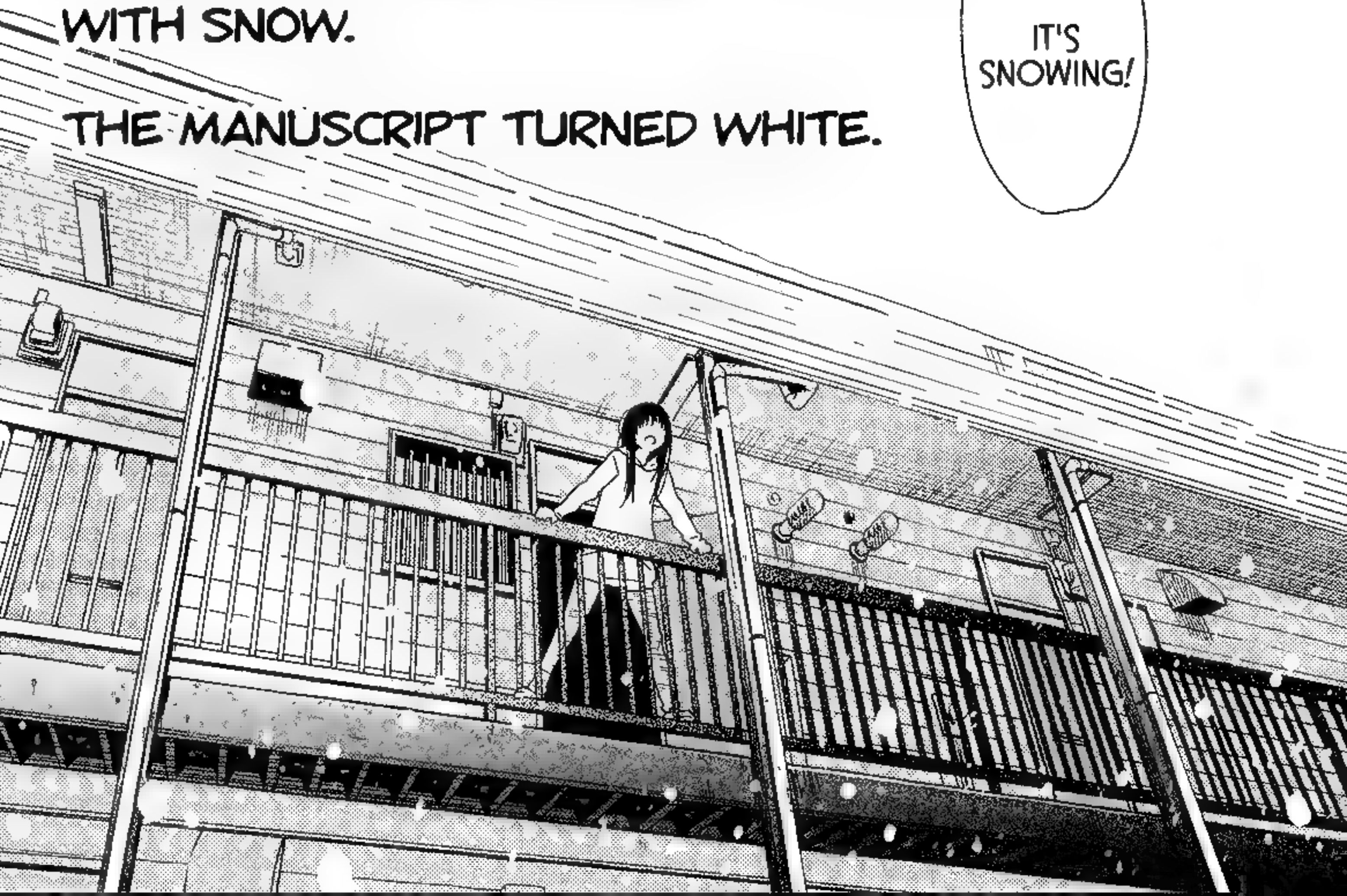


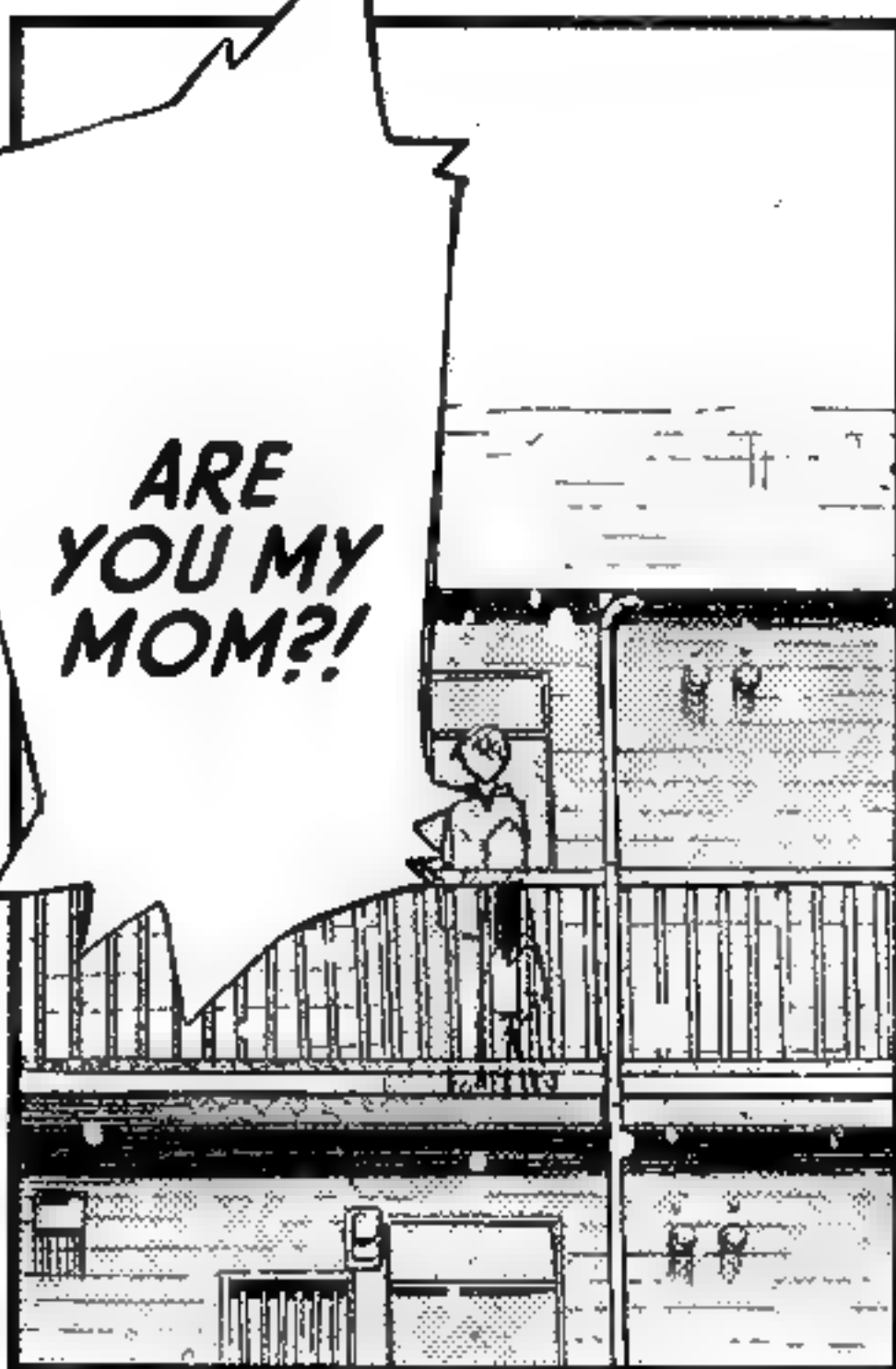


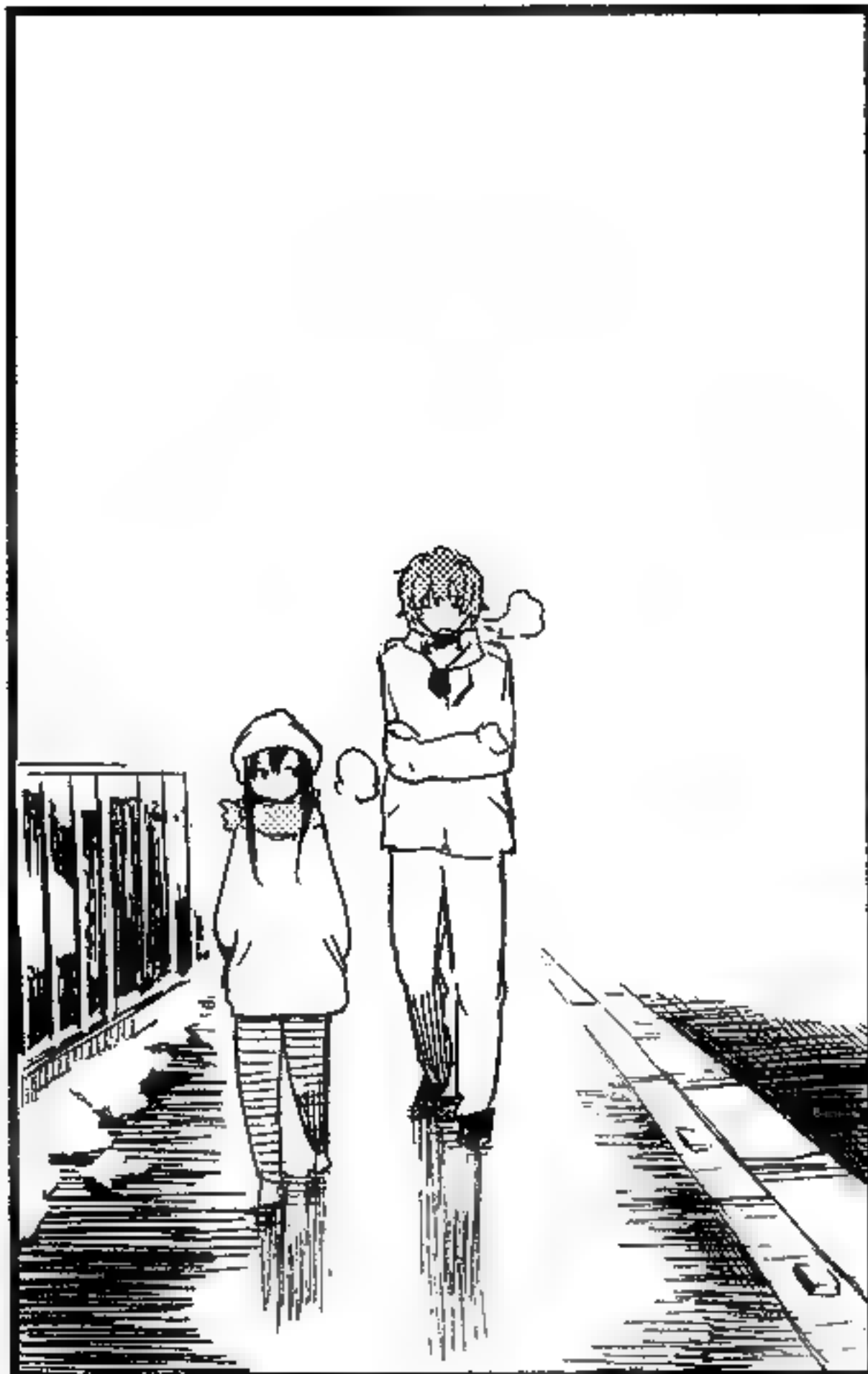
AT THE END OF THE LONG TUNNEL
KNOWN AS "THE DEADLINE",
THERE IS A WORLD FILLED
WITH SNOW.

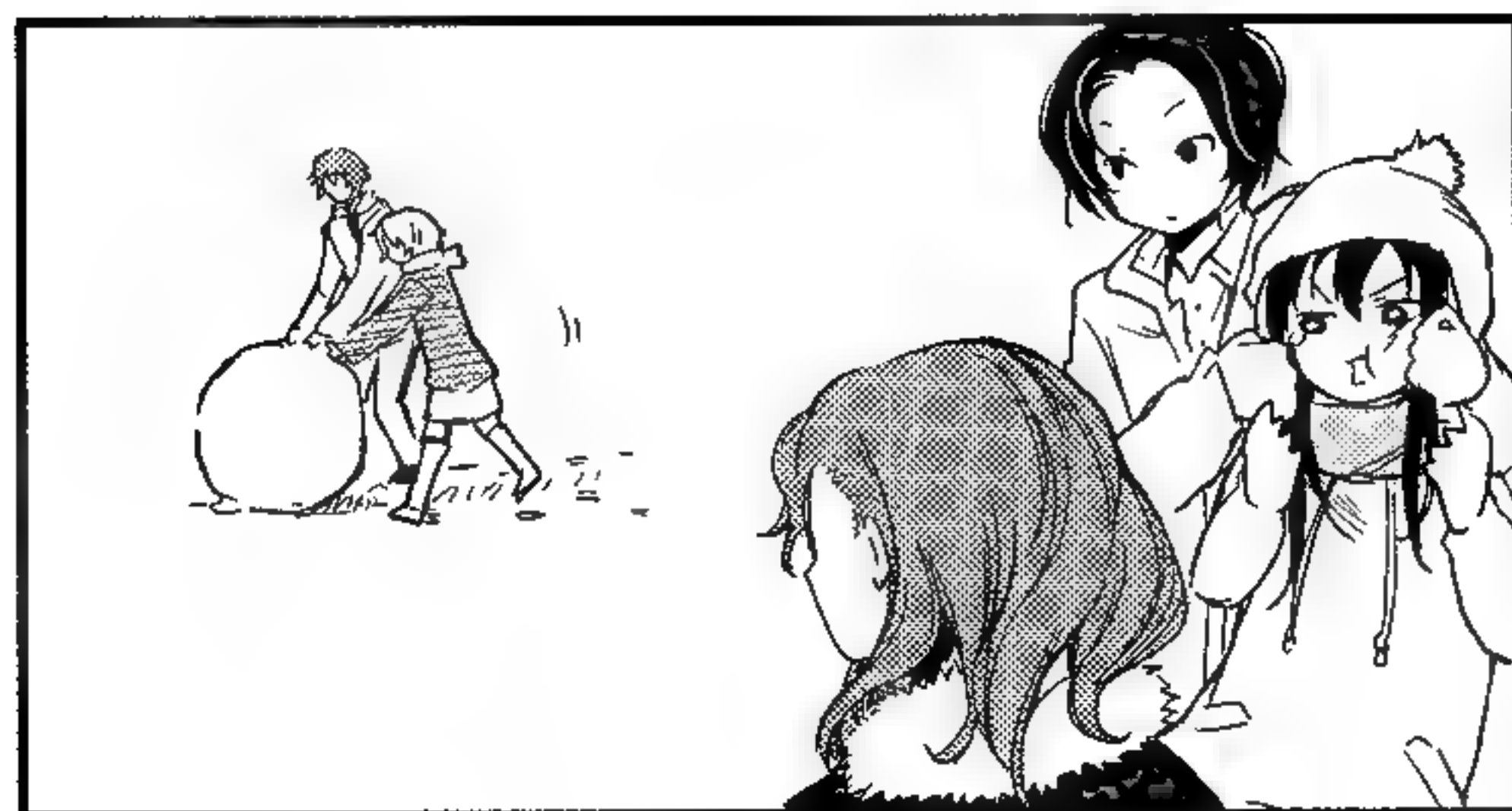
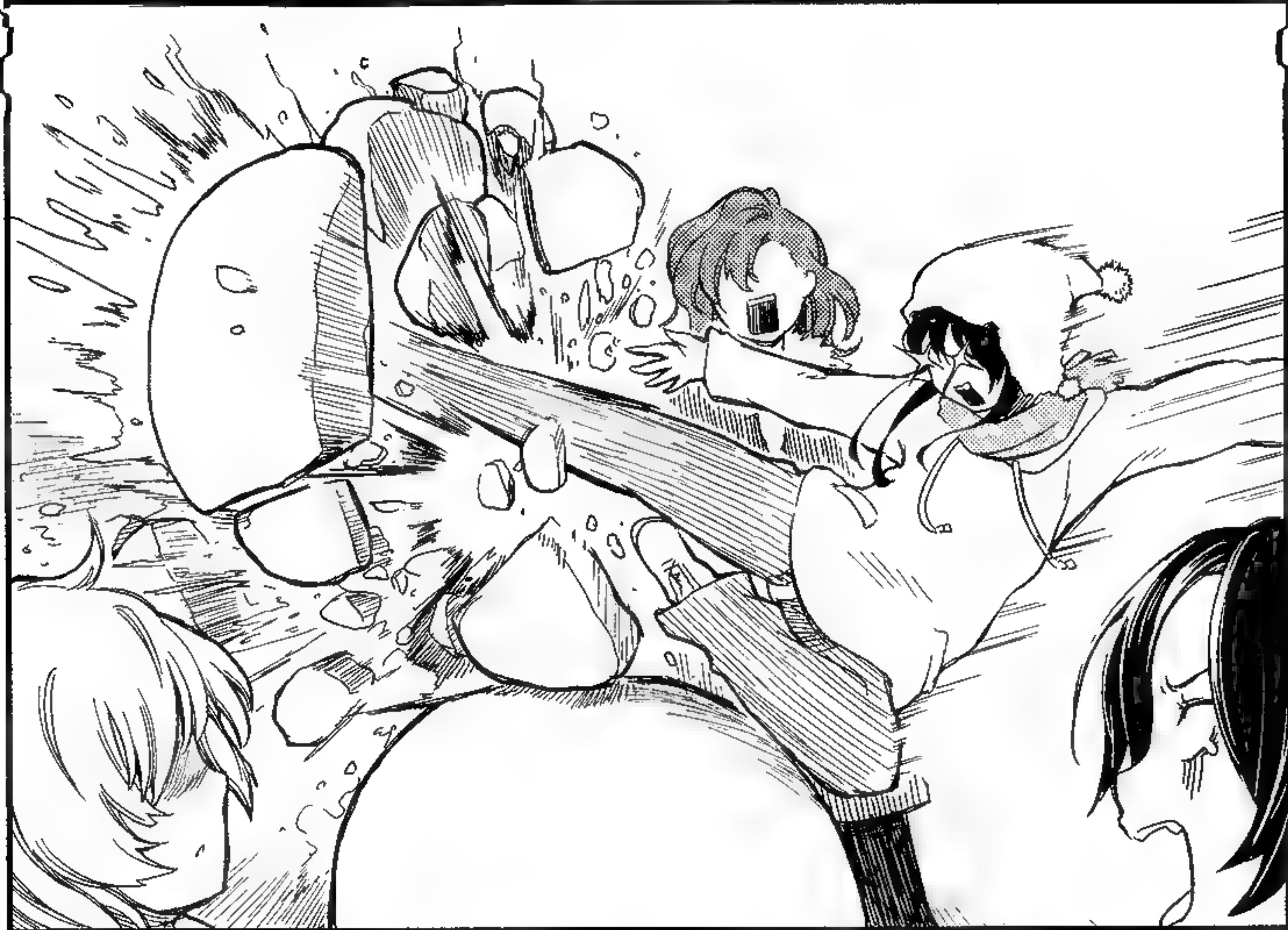
THE MANUSCRIPT TURNED WHITE.

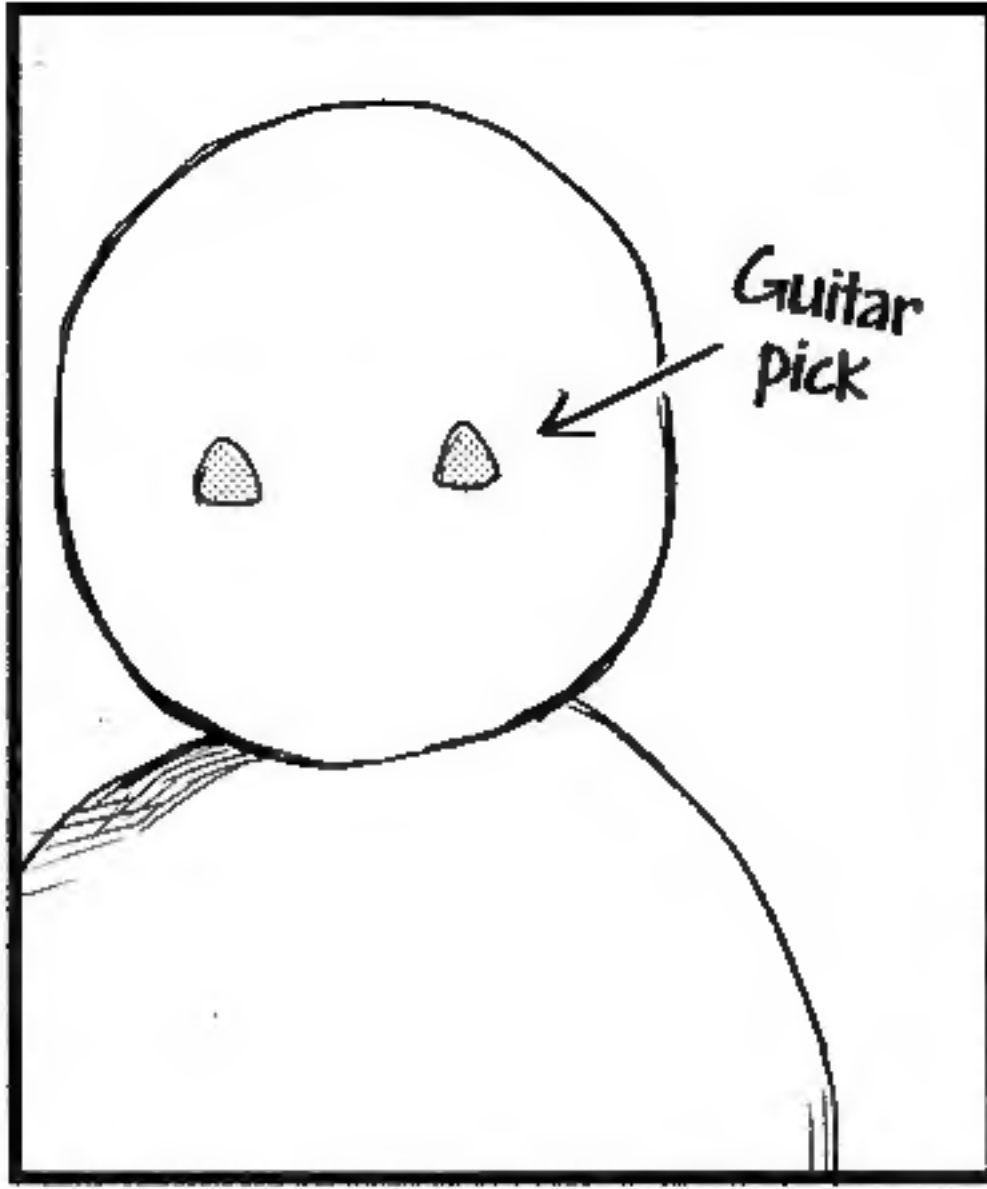
IT'S
SNOWING!



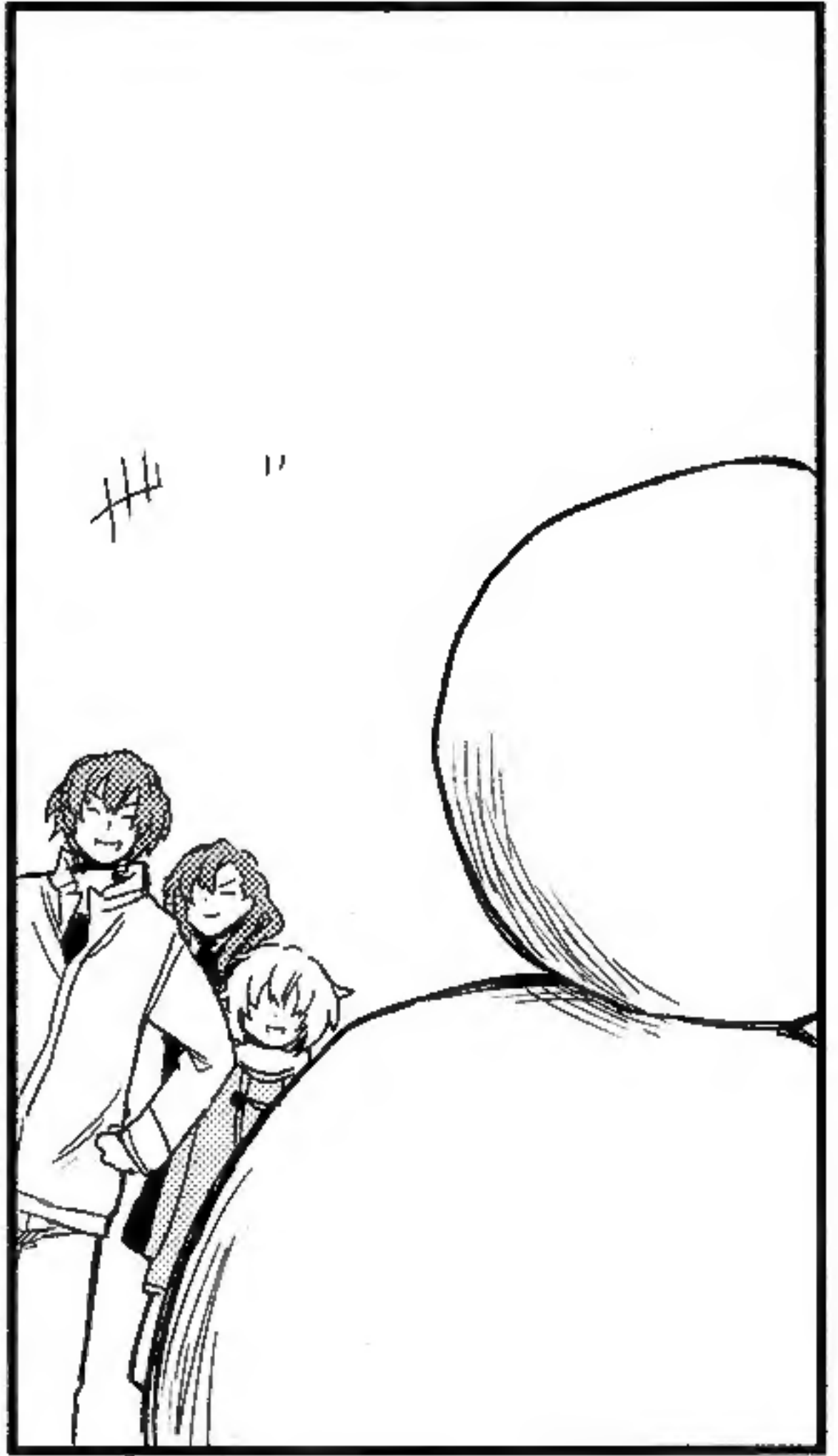
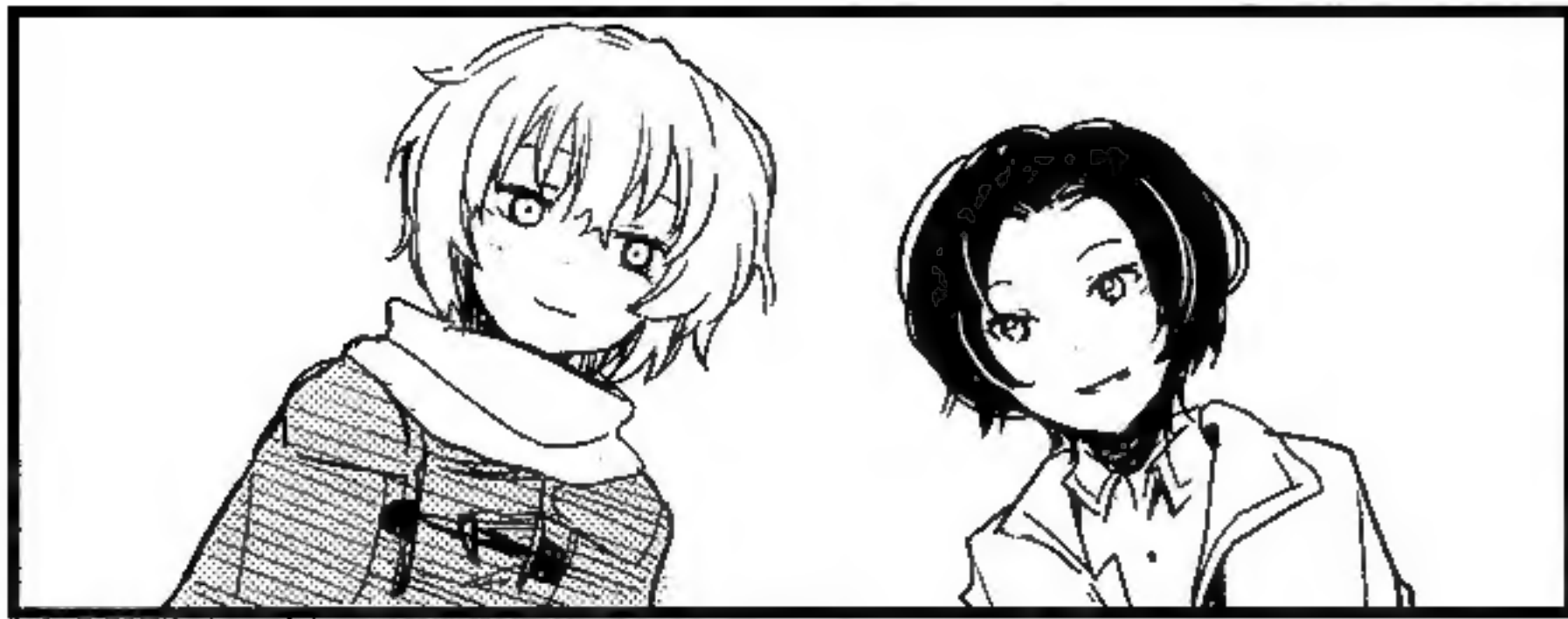


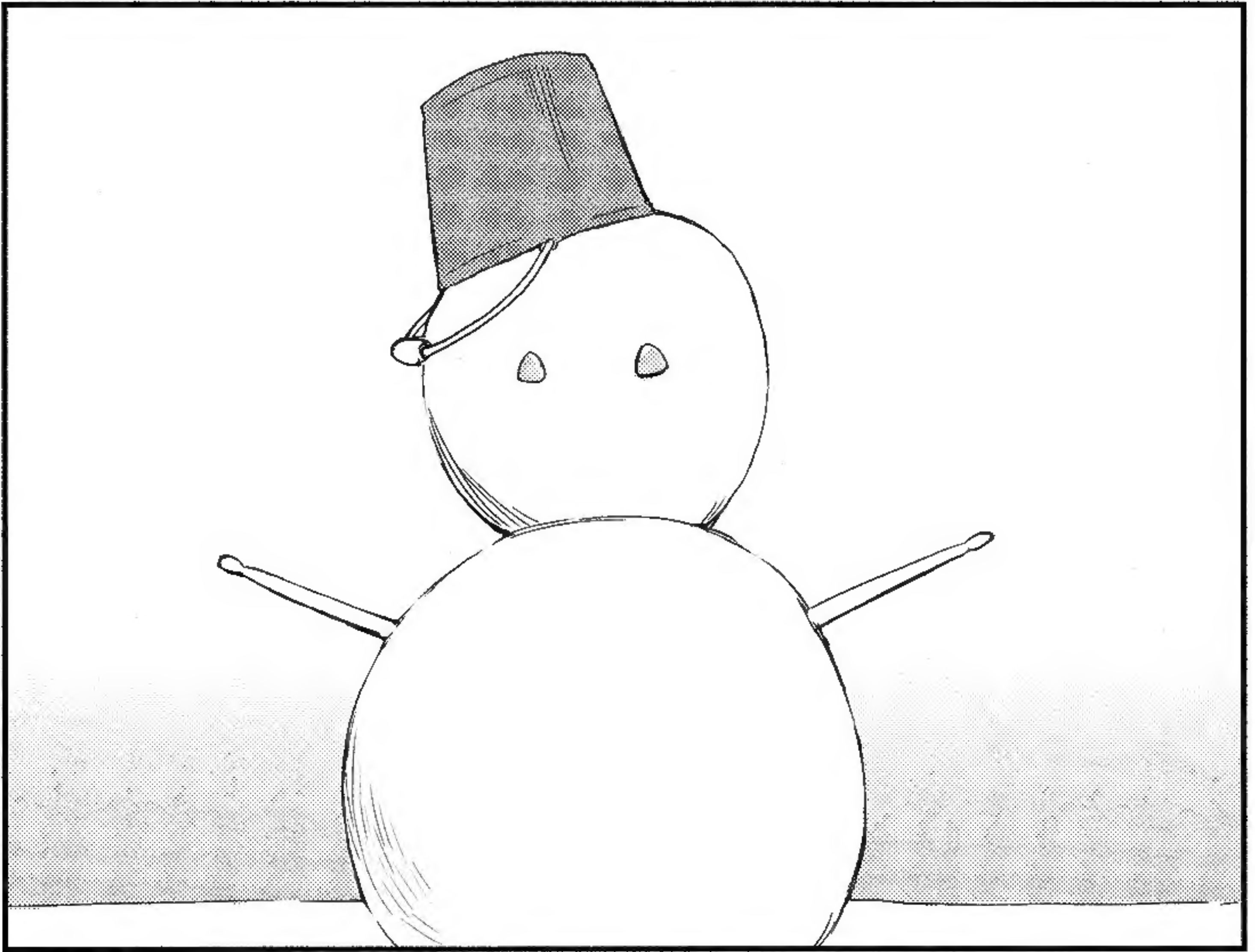






Guitar pick









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